1985 under the heading "Spy nest in Doon Valley";

(b) the names of foreign agencies functioning in the Doon Valley; and

(c) what action is being taken to curb anti-national activity there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) Yes, Sir. The news item is based on a sight-seeing visit of a diplomat to Mussoorie.

(b) There is no information with the Government about any such agencies being active in Doon Valley.

(c) Government is aware of the importance of ensuring the security of the country and to this extent, wherever appropriate, necessary action under law is taken.

Filling up of posts of IAS officers in Jammu and Kashmir cadre

1755. SHRI GHULAM RASOOL KAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased *to state:*

(a) how many posts in I,A,S, cadre are available/vacant in Jammu and Kashmir cadre;

(b) whether it is a fact that State Government had formed a Committee for their selection, whether the Central Government had sent any team for verification of their records and whether any member of the Union Public Service Commission had been incorporated in the team;

(c) whether it is a fact that officers of more than 52 years of age with matriculate qualification have been recommended and that the junior payscale officers have been recommended;

(d) whether it is a fact that super scale I.A.S. have been ignored; and

(e) what are the names of persons recommended by the State Government with their educational qualifications and scale of pay in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: (a) 6 posts to be filled up by direct recruitment and 30 posts by promotion from the State Civil Service, are vacant in the Indian Administrative Service cadre of Jammu & Kashmir.

(b) In accordance with the provisions of Regulation 3 of the Indian Administrative Service (Appointment by Promotion) Regulations, 1955, a Selection Committee was constituted for preparing a Select List of officers for promotion from the Jammu & Kashmir State Civil Service. This Committee was presided over by the Chairman of the Union Public Service Commission and included a Joint Secretary to the Government of India and the Chief Secretary and three other senior IAS officers of the State Government. The Selection Committee met in New Delhi on the 23rd December, 1985 and examined service records of eligible State Civil Service officers for inclusion in the Select List for promotion to I.A.S.

(c) and (d) As per provisions of the Indian Administrative Service (Appointment by Promotion) Regulations, 1955, the upper age limit for being considered for inclusion in the Select List is 54 years as on 1ts january of the year in which the Selection Committee meets. No minimum educational qualification or scale of pay in the State Civil Service is prescribed as eligiblety condition for promotion to the I.A.S. However, a member of the State Civil Service to be eligible for consideration by the Selection Committee should be substantive in the State Civil Service and should have completed not less than 8 years of continuous service in the post of Deputy Collector or equivalent. In the list of 68 officers of the State Civil Service arranged in the order of seniority as furnished by the State Government there were 8 officers in the supertime scale of the State Civil Service and 50 officers in the Selection Grade and 10 in the time scale of the State Civil Service. 9 Selection Grade officers and 4 time scale officers were ineligible for con-

sideration as they were not substantive in the State Civil Service.

(e) As the process of preparation of Select List is not over it would not be appropriate to reveal details of the individuals.

Missing army deserters and defence personnel

1756. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of army deserters and defence personnel are still missing;

(b) if so, since when and what is the number thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that some of such personnel have been recruited in Punjab Police and others are in Pakistan; if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(d) what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) to (d) The information asked for is of a classified nature and cannot be divulged in public interest.

Seminar on developing countries and nuclear issues

1757. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a seminar entitled "Development countries and Nuclear Issue" was held in New Delhi on January 20, 1986;

(b) if so, what are the names of those development countries whose delegates participated in the seminar;

(c) what are the main observations and suggestions made at the seminar; and

(d) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes Sir, a workshop on this subject was organised jointly by the India International Centre and the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses on January 20th, 1986 at the request of the Independent Commission on Disarmament and Security Issues, which met in New Delhi from January 17-19, 1986.

(b) No delegates from any country as such were invited. The participants included Indian academics and others interested in security issues and those members of the Independent Commission on Disarmament and Security Issues and the experts assisting them who were present for the New Delhi meeting of the Independent Commission on Disarmament and Security Issues.

(c) The theme paper for the workshop was titled "Developing Countries and Nuclear Issues." The discussions covered a wide range of security and disarmament issues.

(d) Government of India's views on these issues are well-known and have been stated a number of times on the floor of this House.

Opening of passport office in Kurukshetra

1758. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to open a passport office in Kurukshetra in Haryana; and

(b) if so, by when it is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

US insistence for signing of GSOMIA by India

1759. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that US is insisting for signing of the GSOMIA by